October 14, 2020

Bruce Newell, Chair Montana State Library Commission 2570 Mayrowan Court Helena, Montana. 59601 bruce.newell@gmail.com (406) 461-3206

Representative Kimberly Dudik, Chair Legislative Finance Committee

Thank you for your work, as Chair of the Legislative Finance Committee, supporting HB633's two fixed cost revenue recommendations. I write, specifically, of the proposal for all natural resource agencies to contribute to a fixed cost assessment based on their ESRI licenses, and for all agencies to contribute based on their number of Microsoft Active Directory licenses. If and when recommendations become law, the State Library will have the funding it needs to accomplish its statutory mission.

We are also grateful to the LFC for your unanimous support of legislation to provide additional funding through Montana's recordation fees and 9-1-1 fees. The State Library is working hard to gain the support of key stakeholders to ensure the Legislature successfully passes these two pieces of legislation.

Your support means a great deal to us. I thank you and the LFC, in particular, for working with Montana's State Librarian, Jennie Stapp, towards practical solutions towards solving our ongoing and acute revenue challenges.

We, the State Library Commission, will do all we can to help turn these two necessary recommendations into law.

Sincerely,

Bruce Newell (for the Montana State Library Commission)

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Representative David Bedey, Chair Legislative Finance Committee Education Subcommittee

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